

## Palestinian team meets Christopher

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — A Palestinian delegation warned Monday after meeting U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher that autonomy could fail if Israel does not improve the situation on the ground. Just two days before an agreement to launch autonomy is due to be signed, delegation head Faisal Husseini said the Palestinians were "not satisfied at all." Mr. Husseini said: "We are concerned about the Israeli implementation on the ground, especially about the isolation of Jerusalem. "We have made it clear if such a policy goes on, it can be the *momentum* which can kill such an opportunity to implement autonomy. Mr. Husseini stressed that an agreement suitable to the Palestinians was paramount, not the deadline for signing it. Among the nine delegates at the meeting in the U.S. consulate in East-Jerusalem were the head of the Palestinian delegation to the bilateral Middle East peace talks, Sach Erakai, and former spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi.

IMO (AFP) — rights activist has issued an annual Festival in which the et loose and y residents in villages. "The on of the horrid Bulls this year cracked and distional public former actress il 26 letter to ar. Franco and of the state of a. The letter ignite Bardot id the Easter f starving bulls am free to be tortured before ed by villagers razi was "uny" inflicted by azilians" in the central custom.

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A 43-year-olded him. The girl was 11 years in jail in 1981. It was the first time given. from Dorset in 1981, was found guilty of rape and buggery. The told Mr. Mole to have sex and to disfigure him. The girl in her 20s was started when 16, the age of the girl only 11. Judge Marke: "This was not as torture you our satisfaction the longest sentence imposed or have imposed in a ind," the judge

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## Israel, PLO 'geared up'

## to sign self-rule deal

— A couple ove after both ange operations to Queen Eli under their new newspaper. Although they owed to marry, am and David have to assume rers for the wedd as British sta recognise sex. Newham, 47, dressed as the bride, because a man, Willis, asked whether he and his girlfriend as added husband, he met five years a Newham's op come a woman, Mirror they had esperation to be married in a mer, as a cons to the queen, en, who as John, dressed as a tawer seek only that we other in sincerity, id as my blust as his wife." her did not say Kingham Palace to the letter, through all the "nuisance calls," the states, "said as an eight-year from his life as a at we want to be other and we are ome out into the

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— A London "cold, calculaous" woman for ter she died her by inside a plastic to die in rubber four-month-old only because and sounds com communal bi, was told. The could not be she just wanted described her as illigent. "Having having heard you I wholeheartedly would add cold, determined, very and dangerous, in Crown Court Prendergast told

See page 5 for text of draft accord

Chief PLO negotiator Nabil Shaath told a news conference: "We finished all legal aspects, the drafting of the agreement is almost finished. There is only one paper left on security, which will be discussed this evening" on the extent of Palestinian territorial waters. He said he was "confident that we are at the gate of a major achievement for our people."

The autonomy accord for the occupied Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho would "give the Palestinian people for the first time the right to have a hand in its own destiny on its territory."

Mr. Rabin and Mr. Arafat are due here Tuesday to tackle the thorny questions of the size

of the autonomous area of Jericho and the presence of a Palestinian policeman on the King Hussein Bridge linking Jordan and the West Bank, as well as any last-minute hitches.

Dr. Shaath said the 9,000-strong Palestinian police force was "ready to go" moving into the areas to replace Israeli troops, as the PLO had received "detailed news about the Israeli withdrawal."

(Continued on page 2)

Unemployment jump feared in occupied lands

WASHINGTON (AFP) — A massive jump in Palestinian unemployment could hit the occupied territories during transition to autonomy and pose a threat to stability, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) said.

In a report released Monday, the U.N. organisation said the job crisis could jeopardise peace in the region unless urgent measures are taken.

The ILO said unemployment already stands at 25 per cent in the territories overall, including 41 per cent in the Gaza Strip.

"A jump in unemployment, even if temporary, could be a crucial factor working against peace and stability during the transition," the report said.

The territories have a population of roughly two million, half of whom are 15 years old or less. The labour force stands at 310,000 or 34 per cent of the adult population. Up to 35 per cent of the labour force has found employment in the Israeli economy.

The labour force is expected to jump to 470,000 by 2000, the report said.

According to the ILO, the territories have to generate 12,500 new jobs annually just

to keep pace with the 4.5 per cent yearly population growth rate. The figures do not account for an estimated 500,000 Palestinians expected to return by the end of the century.

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This will be the fifth meeting of the arms control and security committee, one of five multilateral groups that branched off the Middle East peace process began in Madrid in October 1991. The four other groups are concerned with water, refugees, environment and economic development.

It was the first time the arms group convened outside the United States or Russia, which are co-sponsors of the peace effort.

In addition, it called for a small-enterprise development programme and the establishment of a department of labour and social affairs in the territories.

The report underscored the strong dependence of the territories on Israel.

(Continued on page 9)

## Doha talks open today

DOHA (AP) — Delegations from more than 40 countries, including Israel, held informal discussions Monday ahead of a conference aimed at laying plans for arms control and regional security in the Middle East once peace is established.

The report warned against "sudden interruption of the level of unemployment relief currently provided by the unemployment relief work programme carried out under the auspices of the civil administration (the Israeli authorities)."

The ILO said a cutoff of such benefits "would be detrimental to the social stability required to facilitate a smooth transition to a Palestinian authority."

The group called for an emergency job training programme to increase the skills of former political prisoners, covering at least 12,000 of the neediest.

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# 2 Middle East News

JORDAN TIMES, TUESDAY, MAY 3, 1994

## S. Arabia to ban Iranian rallies

DUBAI (R) — Saudi Arabia will ban Iranian pilgrims from holding political rallies at this year's Haj, the annual pilgrimage. Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayef Ben Abdul Aziz said.

The official Saudi Press Agency (SPA) quoted prince Nayef as saying on Sunday night that Saudi Arabia has officially informed Iran that its pilgrims would not be allowed to hold rallies at the Haj, which reaches its climax later this month.

Asked about reports that the Iranians were planning rallies, Prince Nayef said: "I have heard of this and read about it... they said they will (hold rallies) and we say no they won't."

"They know it will not happen and they have been informed of this," SPA quoted him as saying.

Tehran Radio had said on Sunday that a group of Iranian pilgrims left for Saudi Arabia after being told it was

their duty to hold political rallies in defiance of a Saudi ban.

It said Ayatollah Mohammad Mohammadi Reysahri, Iran's top pilgrimage official, told the first batch of departing pilgrims about the "importance of holding the disavowal of the infidels rallies and stressed the need for pilgrims to take part in that Islamic activity."

Iran's ruling clergy say that Haj would not be complete if Muslims were not allowed to express their anger towards what Iran sees as the enemies of Islam, mainly the United States and Israel.

Saudi Arabia's conservative leaders ban any political activity during the Haj to holy sites in the Kingdom.

Iranian pilgrims held a political rally at last year's Haj but it was confined to a big tent inside their compound. There were no reports of trouble with the Saudi security forces then.

## Israel, PLO geared up for self-rule signing

(Continued from page 1)

of the process.

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Addressing Israeli concerns that Palestinians were not ready to take over, Dr. Shasha said PLO officials would go into the territories Tuesday to coordinate with Israeli officers and 1,000 police would be ready to deploy on Thursday.

"I feel that everything is geared up at top speed towards the implementation of this agreement immediately after the signing on Wednesday," Dr. Shasha told reporters.

He said Palestinians to take charge of civil affairs would be flying to Cairo from various places and then would go into Gaza and the West Bank town of Jericho.

"They will all start to flow in as soon as we sign," he said. "If we are delayed a day or two it's not a problem."

It has taken more than six months for the negotiators to agree on details of their Sept. 13 accord calling for limited Palestinian self-rule. Apparently the implementation agreement runs 300 pages, with maps and addenda.

The agreement will end nearly 27 years of occupation in Gaza and Jericho. Under the September accord signed in Washington, the two sides are to begin negotiating a final peace agreement that will decide the future of the rest of the West Bank.

Dr. Shasha said legal aspects of the agreement were cleared up Monday, meaning the key dispute on legal jurisdiction over lawbreakers arrested in Gaza and Jericho was settled. He gave no details, however.

Some security questions remain, but these could be settled quickly, Dr. Shasha said. He said the agreement on release of Palestinian prisoners was not yet written, it's all agreed.

The chief Israeli delegate,

Major General Amnon Shash, returned to Israel at mid-afternoon to brief Mr. Rahin, but sources said he could return as early as Monday night.

Egypt announced that U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev will deliver speeches at the signing ceremony as representatives of the sponsors of overall Mideast peace talks.

On Sunday, both the PLO

Executive Committee and Israel's cabinet approved signing the agreement.

The PLO said a 25-member national council has been named to govern the self-rule zones. It will be headed by Mr. Arafat and include 12 members from the occupied territories and 12 from outside.

Egypt's Middle East News Agency said the members will include Dr. Shasha; Faisal Husseini, a leading Palestinian from the territories; and Intisar Al Wazir (Um Jihad).

Norwegian diplomat Terje Roed Larsen, who is coordinating fund-raising efforts, said Monday that money "sufficient to start," has been raised but that more is needed to cover operating costs through the first year of autonomy.

The PLO estimates it will need \$20 million for deployment and operations in the first six weeks, an additional \$40 million over the next five months and \$85 million a year after that.

Last week, the U.S. presented the force with 24 jeeps, the first of 200 jeeps and trucks the United States is donating from its stockpile in Europe. The vehicles and spare parts have a value of some \$6 million, American diplomats said.

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## The Jordanian French Medical Association offer their heartfelt condolences to:

His Majesty King Hussein  
Her Majesty Queen Noor  
Crown Prince Hassan  
Prince Mohammad  
Princess Bassma  
Prince Ra'd Ben Zaid  
(honorary President of the JFMA)  
for the sad loss of  
Her Majesty Queen Zein Al Sharaf

make it easier for Palestinian livelihood," he told the Jordan Times as he was on his way back home. "Jordan provides the lifeline for our people."

Mr. Shasha said that there was no reason for Jordanians to fear that the relaxation of travel into the Kingdom meant that large waves of Palestinians would flock into the country seeking employment and fleeing difficult economic conditions in the occupied territories.

"We will not leave the West Bank and Gaza Strip," he said.

Some Jordanians who advocated limiting the number of Palestinians travelling into Jordan from the occupied territories said they feared massive waves of Palestinian migration if Jordan

did not impose stricter measures.

Zaki Abu Yousef, a 23-year-old student at Bir Zeit University in the West Bank, said that Palestinians would not leave their homes and businesses to come and settle in the East Bank.

However, he told the Jordan Times as he waited for his passport clearance at the arrival terminal, the new relaxed measures would improve Palestinian businesses frequently dealing with Jordan.

"It will become easier to travel between the West and East Bank and will be highly beneficial for our businesses," said Mr. Abu Yousef, whose family business in the West Bank town of Ramallah includes import and export of electrical equipment.

If all goes according to plan, Israel's army will hand off to the Palestinian police within days and end its patrols of Palestinian refugee camps and towns that frequently provoked bloody clashes with Palestinians.

Shai Shabtai, guarding a nursery school in the settlement of Neve Dekalim, said his mission was a lot clearer

than it had been when he was patrolling the streets of the Rafah refugee camp.

"This time we are among Jews. It explains why we are here. You live among the settlers and that makes it easier," he said.

But speaking privately, he dislikes the soldiers harbour towards the settlers is blunt. "They're a pain in the butt,"

Lt. Remez said. "They're afraid of us, but we're afraid of them."

Another complained that the cost of protecting so few Israelis was enormous. At the Tel Katifa settlement, four soldiers guard six Israeli adults and two children who built three cement block buildings near the beach.

The soldiers noted settlers

and soldiers came to blows after a stabbing attack in Neve Dekalim last week, when two Palestinians stabbed an Israeli woman and then were set upon by vengeance-seeking settlers.

Fistfights broke out when a colonel tried to shield one of the Palestinians, who was shot

and beaten and later died.

The soldiers also have to guard against clashes between settlers and Palestinian police.

The potential for such conflict was seen at Neve Dekalim's 10-year anniversary celebration last week, where high school students sang a Hebrew rap song that attacked Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and the autonomy plan.

At Capt. Aviv's outpost

overlooking the Khan Yunis refugee camp, soldiers were trying out a new volleyball net.

A net went up as the ball

drifted over the eastern rampart and down into the perimeter fence, fully exposed to sniper fire. One soldier

stood guard as another slithered down the dune to fetch the ball and scampered back.

"It's ok, they usually just shoot at dawn or at dusk," said Lt. Remez. "It's not very effective. They mostly just shoot and run. But it's very risky."

## Ghosheh's front urges Arafat not to sign accord

TUNIS (R) — A Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) faction which has been supporting Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat urged him on Monday not to sign the self-rule deal with Israel expected this week.

The Palestine Popular Struggle Front (PPSF), called for urgent meetings of the PLO executive, on which it is represented by its leader Samir Ghosheh, and the larger Palestine Central Council.

"We in the PPSF... warn the PLO leadership not to submit to any pressure in order to make it sign the draft agreement," it said in a statement.

"Its breaches and defects constitute a dangerous threat to the future of our national struggle and to the remnants of Palestinian national unity within the PLO."

Yasser Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin plan to meet in Cairo on Tuesday to settle remaining issues with the aim of signing the deal on Wednesday.

The Palestine Central Council last met in November to approve a declaration of principles signed by Israel and the PLO in Washington in September.

(Continued from page 1)

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Last week, the U.S. presented the force with 24 jeeps, the first of 200 jeeps and trucks the United States is donating from its stockpile in Europe. The vehicles and spare parts have a value of some \$6 million, American diplomats said.

The agreement will end nearly 27 years of occupation in Gaza and Jericho.

# Home News

## King receives condolences

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein received a cable of condolences from South Korean President Kim Young Sam over the passing of Queen Zein Al Sharaf, the Queen Mother, who died at the age of 78 on April 26.

King Hussein received more cables of condolences from heads of state and political figures in Arab and foreign countries Sunday and Monday. The cables were sent by Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, Eritrean President Assayas Afwerki, Portu-

guese President Mario Soares, Congo Prime Minister Pascal Lissouba, Syrian Prime Minister Mahmoud Al Zub, United Arab Emirates Defence Minister Sheikh Mohammad Ben Rashed Al Maktoum, Sheikh Mohammad Ben Hamad Al Thani, Egyptian writer Mohammad Hassan Al Thani, Pope Shenouda III of Alexandria, former speaker of the Lebanese parliament Kamel Al Asaad, Mother Theresa, Saudi Prince Sultan Ben Abdul Aziz Al Saoud, the

son of the Bahraini crown prince, Sheikh Salman Ben Hamad Ben Issa Al Khalifah, former Sudanese president Abdul Rahman Swareddah, Bahraini Monetary Corporation Director Sheikh Khaled Ben Salmen Al Khalifah, Secretary General of the Arab Thought Forum (ATF) Ali Oumil, head of the Syrian Druze sect Ahmad Al Hajri, Omani Labour Minister Ahmad Ben Mohammad Al Aisa'i, and Lebanese Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Anwar Al Khalil.

## House reconsiders articles in draft sales tax law

AMMAN (Petra) — The Lower House of Parliament Monday reconsidered Article 5 and 6 of the sales tax draft law, which it endorsed last week, with a view to correcting a legal wrangle arising from voting down the Financial Committee's recommendation to amend Item B of Article 6 to have items exempted from the tax included in the law.

Item B of Article 6 as presented by the government and

approved by the House last week does not refer to any lists attached to the law and gives the government the right to specify the exempted items through regulations, thus contradicting Article 5 of the draft law which imposes taxes on goods and services except those exempted by the lists attached to the draft law.

After a lengthy debate on the two articles, involving many

deputies, the House endorsed both articles as recommended by its Financial Committee.

The committee recom-

ended that lists should be

part of the law and not be

governed by a special regula-

tion.

The House also endorsed Article 7, 8, 10, 11 and 12 of the draft law.

The House will continue debate of other articles today.

## Fatal Madaba road collision under investigation — police

By Rana Husseini  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Fifteen survivors of a fatal bus collision that claimed the lives of ten people Sunday on the Amman-Madaba road, were listed in fair to serious condition Monday. Some accident victims were transferred to King Hussein Medical Centre in Amman, hospital sources said.

Minister of Interior Salameh Hammoud, who Monday addressed a ceremony marking International Traffic Day, said "despite all efforts yesterday, we were shocked by a tragic accident which claimed the lives of ten people and left 15 more injuries."

In a statement Sunday evening to Jordan Television (JTV), the minister attributed the accident to reckless driving. Statements by witnesses and victims, which are yet to be confirmed by police, said the driver of a water tanker attempted to overtake a passenger vehicle on the two-lane road and met head-on with a public bus. The accident took place in the Manga area near Madaba.

Two of the deceased who were brought to Madaba's Nadin Hospital, have not yet been identified, hospital sources said.

The bus driver, who survived the crash, and another passenger were transferred from Nadin Hospital to King Hussein Medical Centre.

A Public Security Depart-

ment (PSD) official in Amman said Madaba police were still investigating the accident.

The dead include: Suleiman M. Salayteh (50), Mahmoud Jbeili (50), Talib Misleh (35), Abdul Aziz Ahmad, Awatef Mahmood, Samar Hmoud and four others, including the two women and one child who have not been identified.

According to officials at Bashir Hospital, three victims were admitted there on Sunday, a six-year-old, Mariam Hassan, suffered a fractured arm and thigh and was listed in good condition. The other two patients were transferred to King Hussein Medical Centre.

A Madaba Military Hospital official told the Jordan Times that most casualties admitted there were listed in fair condition. He added that a 50-year-old man suffered internal bleeding and will undergo surgery.

His Majesty King Hussein instructed the Minister of Interior and the PSD officials concerned to insure that the accident victims receive appropriate care, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported.

King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan conveyed their condolences to the victims' families, Petra reported.

Stressing the importance of road safety, Mr. Hammoud told the attendees of the International Traffic Day ceremony that the number of road accidents in the Kingdom is in-

creasing, and the death rate among road accident victims is 15.8 to every 10,000 motor vehicles, while in the industrialised countries it is 1.8 to every 10,000 vehicles.

Petra recently reported that during the first three months of this year, a total of 6,842 road accidents occurred in Jordan, resulting in the death of 90 people and injury to 2,844 others.

The Traffic Department, which released the numbers attributed most accidents to speeding and disobeying traffic rules and regulations.

According to the Department of Statistics, in 1993 road accidents took the lives of 440 people; 61.2 per cent of them were children under the age of 15.

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## Jordan Times

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## Shuttle can work

SYRIA'S PUBLIC rejection of the latest Israeli peace plan envisaging a phased withdrawal from the Golan Heights should have been expected, given that U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher carried the plan to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad Saturday with probably no more hope than that of Damascus submitting a counter offer based on Syria's long-standing position calling for complete and simultaneous Israeli withdrawal.

No doubt that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's latest formula for peace with Syria was made with the full realisation that the Syrian government was not likely to take his offer as is. Negotiating tactics take into considerations the principles of offering the minimum and demanding the maximum. This is exactly what Rabin has done in his latest move with Damascus.

Rabin had been showing some flexibility on the Golan Heights, with promise of territorial concessions and the dismantlement of Jewish settlements. Still, previous Israeli postures on the Syrian territories whether they emanated from the Labour or Likud perspectives appear to have prevented Rabin from meeting Syrian legitimate demands in full.

It is against this backdrop, that the Syrian no was renounced. "Damascus rejects half-solutions and does not accept any compromises over Arab rights and land," Damascus Radio declared on the eve of Christopher's visit to the country. Of course, the Syrian president can afford to be patient in his dealing with Israel since he has more to offer than to receive. With the prospects of another war in the area receding to an all-time low, regaining lost territories cannot compensate for the kind of strategic concessions that Damascus is called upon to make. No wonder then that President Assad had to sound firm and unequivocal in demanding full Israeli withdrawal or nothing.

In line with these latest developments, the U.S. secretary of state has travelled once again to Israel carrying with him the official Syrian reply. While it is premature to tell how Rabin will react to Damascus's counter proposal, it is possible that he will improve on his Saturday's negotiating offer to keep the U.S. shuttle diplomacy in full swing. The minute Christopher abandons his go-between activities, the world would know that the Syrian-Israeli track is at least temporarily blocked. This may not be the case since the gap between a phased Israeli withdrawal and full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan is indeed bridgeable.

Bridging the gap can be done the minute Rabin becomes convinced that Damascus is firm in meeting its full conditions for peace in the area.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTATORS

A bid to reassert the principle that peace is indivisible, Syria has rejected an Israeli offer of gradual Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Syrian Golan Heights, said Al Dustour daily. There can be no peace without the exchange for land as the Arabs in general and Syria in particular believe and Israel's manoeuvres are totally rejected, said the daily. For peace to be lasting, it should be complete and just. Partial deals can never achieve the aspired goals for the Arabs, added the daily. Indeed, President Hafez Al Assad's firm position regarding this issue has given the Palestinian cause and the question of peace a pan-Arab and comprehensive dimension and further exposed Israel's underhand dealings and procrastinations, said the paper. It said that the Oslo deal on Israeli-Palestinian gradual peace was perhaps necessary in view of the complex situation in the occupied Palestinian land, but that does not mean that the Israelis can repeat the same pattern with the other Arab parties. The Syrians want the Israelis to withdraw their forces completely from the Golan as they did in Sinai and there is no doubt that Jordan and Lebanon would make the same demands so that peace can be genuine and lasting, the paper continued. Syria, Jordan and Lebanon are determined, said the paper, to reject partial solutions, and the leaderships of the three countries have time and again reiterated their positions clearly and reaffirmed their principled stands even before the Madrid conference was held.

COMMENTING ON the same theme, Arafat Hijazi, a Communist in Sawt Al Shabab daily, said that by offering to withdraw from the Golan piecemeal, the Israelis are aiming at achieving a separate peace with Damascus and luring Syria away from the Palestine question. The writer said that Israeli leaders and settlers have often expressed Israel's desire to retain the Golan under any circumstances and therefore the latest Israeli offer can only be a new manoeuvre designed to mislead public opinion.

## The View from Fourth Circle

## Jordan, Palestine and Israel: challenge and opportunity

By Rami G. Khouri

THE SIGNING of the Palestinian-Israeli economic accord last week and this week's scheduled signing of the Palestinian-Israeli agreement to implement the first stage of the Palestinian self-governing authority represent a phenomenon that is really historic — but not for the reasons most people give.

The importance of these accords (along with the Jordanian-Israeli negotiating agenda and the Jordanian-Palestinian economic and security accords that were signed in recent months) lies not in the advent of Arabs and Jews living together in peace, because they have long lived in peace in most historical periods. Their importance lies in the fact that for the first time in modern history these three peoples — Palestinians, Jordanians and Israelis — are working out arrangements for coexistence and mutual national development on their own, based on their self-perceived national interests, without the imposition of territorial, political or economic arrangements by outside powers. I would suggest several phenomena that we should keep in mind as the process unfolds, relating to the past, the present and the future.

1. The past: Despite the emotional passion and legal status that define them, Jordan, Palestine and Israel are three small entities that have little historical precedent as independent, sovereign states. A Jewish state existed for about a century, and assorted Ammonite, Edomite and Moabite trans-Jordanian kingdoms existed for several centuries some 3,000 years ago, in the Iron Age; in all other historical eras, these territories existed as provinces or protectorates of larger, usually imperial, entities, such as Assyria, Greece, Rome, Byzantium, Persia and the Islamic and Ottoman empires.

Ancient history clearly suggests — in fact, it dictates — that attempts by these three small territories to develop as separate nations, detached from their broader Middle Eastern hinterland and dependent on foreign political and economic support, are unlikely to last more than a few generations. Modern history, however, indicates equally emphatically that Jordan, Palestine and Israel are real units that have to be dealt with as independent actors in the Middle Eastern game of nations. History is a powerful guide, but history is not a static determinant of identity, borders or inter-state relationships.

The fact is that the forces of modern 20th century history have given birth to the national ideas of Jordan, Palestine and Israel. Furthermore, these three entities have responded to modern history by earning their place in the contemporary community of Levantine nations. Jordan, Palestine and Israel have not only worked hard to survive and to improve their people's standards of living; each, in its own way, has also earned the respect, the support and even the admiration of the rest of the world. We can now leave behind the argument that has been used by and against all three entities: that they never existed in history, and therefore they have no legitimacy in today's world.

2. The present: Jordan, Palestine and Israel are all characterised by small populations and domestic markets; substantial dependence on external financing; serious imbalances in their natural resources; problems of poverty and unemployment; residence in a volatile and violent region and an ongoing attempt to forge stable political systems that satisfy their complex demographic mix. As such, they collectively reflect

the national pressures and constraints that define the entire Middle East. I believe that all three embarked on the route of diplomatic negotiations and mutual recognition as the most appropriate means of addressing their national predicaments when they recognised simultaneously in the early 1990s that their present national condition was untenable, for their economic, political and military dependencies were unsustainable in the long run.

The challenge they face is not only to recognise each other and to coexist in peace, but also to sort out the deeply intertwined demographic, economic and political relationships that have defined them for most of this century. Demographically and politically, the Palestinians are structurally meshed with both Jordan and Israel, but all three parties have traditionally suffered from suspicions and the perception of predatory dangers emanating from the others. Economically and environmentally (especially in terms of water, communications, labour, and markets) the Palestinians, Israelis and Jordanians form a single unit that can be separated only at the expense of the long-term national development of each of its three sub-divisions, and with the certitude of perpetual yet fickle dependence on foreign supporters, financiers, armours, protectors and guardians.

Jordanians, Palestinians and Israelis stand on the threshold not only of their own future, but perhaps also of the future of others around the world who seek signs of equitable and democratic national development and productive regional integration, free of the debilitating constraints that have defined much of the South in the last several hundred years.

The task now is how to differentiate between the modern historical national identities and political rights of each of these three communities, while affirming the ancient historical forces that always compelled the three to work together as an integrated unit in order to maximise their viability and to assure a decent standard of living for their people. The signing of the economic, political and security accords that we have witnessed in recent weeks and months represents a serious attempt to achieve precisely this — to affirm independent national identities and rights to Jordan, Palestine and Israel, while promoting economic integration and collective regional growth and prosperity.

3. The future: The future welfare of Jordanians, Israelis and Palestinians will reflect their ability to emerge from this peace-making transitional interlude positioned in a manner that allows them to a) alleviate their contemporary material and economic constraints, b) reconcile their complex demographic mesh, c) affirm their distinct political and national

identities, and d) build on their proven individual strengths to assure their collective future stability and progress.

A Jordanian-Palestinian confederation is a realistic accommodation to contemporary political realities; it could also be the first step towards a broader, more logical national reconfiguration of a Levantine region of Semites — Arabs and Israelis — who have been plagued this century with national fragmentation, socio-economic distress and embarrassing foreign dependency. A Jordanian-Palestinian confederation will have close economic ties with Israel and with larger neighbours such as Syria, Iraq, Egypt and the Arabian Peninsula.

A Jordanian-Palestinian confederation in the short term, and a possible Jordanian-Palestinian-Israeli trilateral, Benelux-type association in the longer run, would be well placed to prosper and to generate further international respect and support, because of the impressive attributes that these three entities enjoy: a strategic geographic location that augurs well for trade, tourism and transit traffic; a skilled and educated workforce, with a proven private sector component; strong political and economic support from the rest of the world; relatively balanced economies that are not heavily dependent on a single sector; a young but nevertheless serious commitment to democracy, pluralism and human rights; and, perhaps most importantly, a shared modern experience of challenging, often suffering, statehood — one that should prompt their people and governments in the future to honour humanism, participatory decision-making and regional socio-economic integration as the defining values of their political culture and economic systems.

A Jordanian-Palestinian-Israeli combine can provide a realistic, durable model of trans-national socio-economic integration as the antidote to narrow, simplistic, made-in-Europe post-1920 nationalisms. They can provide an honourable democratic alternative to the Middle East's modern state legacy of militarism, autocracy and authoritarianism. They can provide a fresh, moving, living formula for ethnic and religious pluralism and tolerance in a region that has been wracked by imperial manipulation, fearful tribalism and religious extremism.

The 20th century has confined us to an intellectually, politically and spiritually insulting debate about small pieces of land, micro-populations, and blinkered visions of the future. What European colonialism and post-colonial American electoral frenzy and predatory commercial extravaganza have torn asunder, we have an opportunity to put back together again at this important historical juncture of Levantine transformation and rebirth. This time, however, unlike 1920 and 1948, we face the critical challenge and the opportunity to engage in the process of nation-building and statecraft in a more coherent, merciful and meaningful manner — most importantly, by consulting the people whose destinies will be determined by the diplomatic negotiations underway today.

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## LETTERS

### Can we remarket Arabism?

To the Editor:

WHERE DID we go wrong? The 60s generation, the bright eyed young Arab intellectuals now in their late forties and fifties — All bright, many highly successful, all unhappy with the state of affairs.

Perhaps at no other time than now has the need for cool-headed, measured thinking been more needed. Arabism, that sense of identity, is being threatened, to a point where perhaps a hundred years from now the word "Arab" will be relegated to history. The Arab World is now the "Middle East." Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and Egypt are the "Eastern Mediterranean region." Others are the Mediterranean Basin or North Africa. Our national dishes are either Greek, Turkish, or even "national Israeli" dishes. In time, we are slowly being robbed of anything and everything that makes us feel what we are. Worse of all, each of us is content or even fighting hard to be packaged as either a Kuwaiti, Lebanese, Jordanian, Egyptian or Palestinian, with no sense of historic depth which would make us realise that these are but newly created identities that are less than 50 years old. Just a bunch of ill-defined small enclaves with no sense or hope for survival.

The old Arabists were idealistic to the point of being naive. They underestimated the forces of those who are threatened by Arab nationalism. Any of us would have laughed at anyone suggesting that it would be possible for Arabs to fight each other and not Israel 20 years on. Worse still, any of us would have thought it unthinkable that we even consider removing the embargo against Israel while thoroughly choking almost to the point of extinction another Arab nation.

Selling Arabism again needs knowledge of market tactics and understanding the strength of the media in shaping the attitudes of the Arab masses. It needs a breed of committed realists who still feel the dream worthwhile. Funny enough, even as a business venture, Arabism would be highly successful. Would anyone care to invest?

Najwa Khuri-Bulos M.D., Professor of Pediatrics, Jordan University Hospital, Amman.

## Job well done

To the Editor:

REFERRING TO the recent fire in the Amman Forte Grand hotel, in which I was staying at the time, I would like to thank the staff and public services for their prompt action in putting out the fire, as well as the rescue work and clearance of smoke, which enabled me to leave my room on the third floor.

I would also like to thank the hospitality of the Marriott Hotel, which provided refreshment and breakfast for those evacuated.

Dennis Goodwin, Kendal, England

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.

## The lessons from South Africa

By G.H. Jansen

APART FROM the broad, basic similarities between the two racial states, apartheid South Africa and the Jewish state of Israel, there are both similarities and differences in the way in which they are, at long last, transforming power to those whom they have ruled — the blacks and the Palestinians; the Israelis, of course, being the counterparts of the South African whites.

Because of the basic similarities in their geo-political situation, there was, over the years, close and cordial, but covert, relations between Israel and South Africa; covert because of world disapproval of apartheid. But some things could not be hidden, such as the coming and goings between the Jewish state and the wealthy pro-Zionist South African Jewish community, trade ties despite an international boycott against South Africa and the fact that South African airways regularly piled the route to Israel. There has been strong suspicion that the two countries cooperated in the nuclear field but firm evidence of this has been difficult to find.

When South Africa saw that it had to yield, somewhat to external pressure it did so by creating black "homelands", or Bantustans, within South Africa. In these homelands, the world was told, blacks would "run their own affairs." Those very same words are being used to put a gloss on two Palestinian Bantustans, in Gaza and Jericho, which are coming into being at this moment,

thanks to the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) acceptance of the Oslo accord.

Indeed the Palestinians have made no bones about describing Gaza-Jericho as "Bantustans", while Israel refers to them as "autonomous" areas or areas of "limited self-rule."

Though the Israelis would like to make this first step the last step too and to yield nothing more, there is no question that Gaza-Jericho First is definitely not the final solution. On the other hand, South Africa fooled itself, and tried to fool the world, that the Bantustan formula was the final solution, because the use of the permanent-sounding word "homelands". But the world was not fooled by the Bantustans and that word acquired a pejorative, contemptuous overtones.

Things are very similar in the case of Gaza and Jericho. After an initial burst of completely artificial euphoria, in which the Arabs and Palestinians shared, most of the Palestinians and many Arabs have now woken up to the fact the Gaza-Jericho is a snare and a delusion: but not the pro-Western Arabs, like Egypt and the Gulf states, nor the Western countries and the pro-Western allies, like Turkey and Japan.

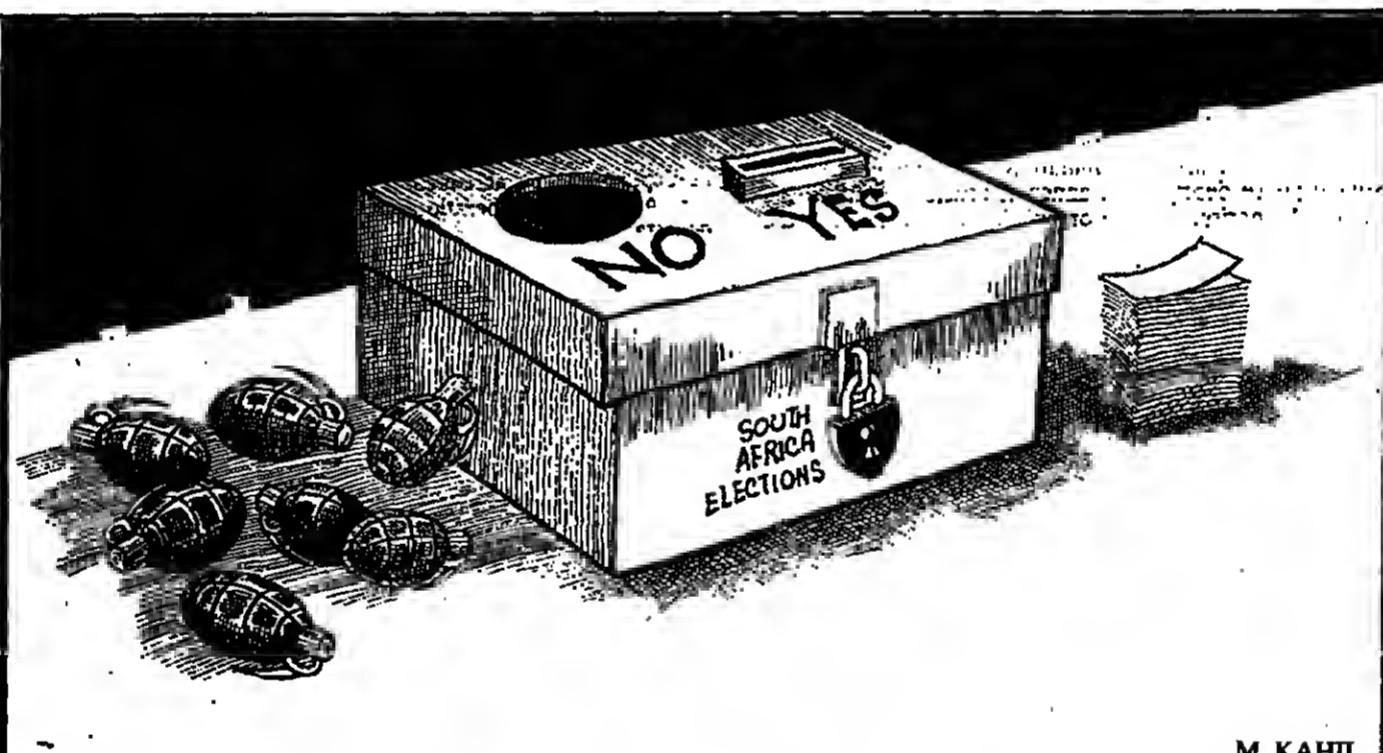
The West persists in seeing Gaza-Jericho as a great, peaceful achievement for which someone may yet win a Nobel Peace prize. South Africa was brought to its senses by long-term consistent pressure from its Western friends and trading partners. On the other hand,

because the PLO has conferred respectability on Israel, particularly through the Rabin-Arafat handshake, the West, as in the past, is not applying any pressure on Israel to implement numerous U.N. resolutions telling it to leave occupied Arab territory. Indeed, Israel's ties with the outside world are presently being strengthened; as with the Vatican.

Instead, the West is putting pressure, not on Israel, but on the Arabs to lift even the minimal boycott that they have been applying on the Jewish state.

And while the sanctions against South Africa were eventually lifted, it was at the request of the blacks because the whites had begun, seriously, to dismantle the structure of apartheid. The West is asking the Arabs to cancel their boycott at the very time when Israel is strengthening its version of apartheid through continuing and tightening its "closure" of the West Bank and Gaza from Israel "proper." It imposed this closure after the Hebron mosque massacre. The pretext for the closure is to give security to the Israelis, the whites, from so-called "terrorist" attacks by the Palestinians.

The Israeli Bantustans, therefore, are in an awkward position. They confer a degree of self-rule that should, supposedly, satisfy and stave off the Palestinian desire for independence. As a long-term substitute for independence Gaza-Jericho First will not work any more than the Bantustans staved off one-man one-vote democracy in South Africa. Indeed what is happening in South Africa should teach the Israelis that clear and simple lesson. But it is a lesson that the Israelis will never learn because of their Zionist belief that their "Promised Land" was promised to the Jews and only to them. They show no sign of being prepared to share it — not even with the original inhabitants.



M. KAHIL

# Features

## Agreement on the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area

Following is the text of a draft agreement dated April 28, 1994, between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation obtained by the Jordan Times:

The government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the representative of the Palestinian people;

### Preamble

WITHIN the framework of the Middle East peace process initiated at Madrid in October 1991; REAFFIRMING their determination to live in peaceful coexistence, mutual dignity and security while recognising their mutual legitimate and political rights; REAFFIRMING their adherence to the mutual recognition and commitments expressed in the letters dated September 9, 1993, signed by and exchanged between the Prime Minister of Israel and the Chairman of the PLO; REAFFIRMING their understanding that the interim self-government arrangements, including the arrangements to apply in the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area contained in this agreement, are an integral part of the whole peace process and that the negotiations on the permanent status will lead to the implementation of Security Council Resolution 242 and 338; DESIROUS of putting into effect the Declaration of Principles of interim self-government arrangements signed at Washington, D.C. on September 13, 1993, and the agreed minutes thereto (hereinafter "the Declaration of Principles"), and in particular the protocol on withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area; HEREBY AGREE to the following arrangements regarding the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area:

### Article 1. Definition of the Gaza Strip and Jericho area

1. For the purpose of this agreement, the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area are delineated on map Nos. 1 and 2 attached to this agreement.

2. The two sides view the West Bank and the Gaza Strip as a single territorial unit, the integrity of which will be preserved during the interim period.

### Article 2. Scheduled Withdrawal of Israeli Military Forces

1. Israel shall implement an accelerated and scheduled withdrawal of Israeli military forces from the Gaza Strip and from the Jericho area beginning immediately with the signing of this agreement and to be completed within three weeks from this date.

2. Subject to the arrangements included in Annex I, the Israeli withdrawal shall include evacuating all military bases and other fixed installations to be handed over to the Palestinian police.

3. In order to carry out Israel's responsibility for external security and for internal security and public order of Israeli settlements and Israelis, concurrently with the withdrawal, Israel will redeploy its remaining military forces to the Israeli settlement areas, Israeli settlements and the military installation area shown on map No. 1, in accordance with the provisions of this agreement. Subject to the provisions of this agreement, this redeployment shall constitute full implementation of Article XIII of the Declaration of Principles with regard to the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area (P:only).

4. For the purpose of this agreement, "Israeli military forces" may include Israeli police and other Israeli security forces.

5. (P: Israelis, including Israeli military forces) (P: Israeli military forces and civilians) may continue to use roads freely within the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area. (P: Annex I includes provisions allowing Palestinians to use freely certain roads within the Israeli settlement areas.)

6. The Palestinian police force shall be deployed and shall assume responsibility for public order and internal security of Palestinians in accordance with this agreement and its annex I.

### Article 3. Jurisdiction

(Note: This article is being addressed by the legal committee).

### Article 4. Transfer of Authority

1. Israel shall transfer authority as specified in this agreement from the Israeli military government and its civil administration to a Palestinian authority, hereby established, in accordance with article — (jurisdiction) of this agreement, except for the authority that Israel shall continue to exercise as specified in this agreement.

2. As regards the transfer and assumption of authority in civil spheres, powers and responsibilities shall be transferred and assumed as set out in the protocol concerning civil affairs attached as Annex II.

3. The Palestinian authority shall have the structure described in annex II, article I (I: and shall be comprised of the members listed therein) (P: The PLO shall inform the government of Israel of the names of the members of the Palestinian Authority and any changes thereto.)

4. Arrangements for a smooth and peaceful transfer of the agreed powers and responsibilities are set out in annex II.

5. Upon the completion of the Israeli withdrawal and the transfer of powers and responsibilities as detailed in paragraph Nos. 1 and 2 above and in annex II, the civil administration in the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area will be dissolved and the Israeli military government will be withdrawn. The withdrawal of the military government shall not prevent it from continuing to exercise the powers and responsibilities specified in this agreement.

6. A joint civil affairs coordination and cooperation committee and two joint regional civil affairs sub-committee for the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area respectively will be established in order to provide for coordination and cooperation in civil affairs between the Palestinian authority and Israel, as detailed in annex II.

7. The offices of the Palestinian authority shall be located in the Gaza Strip and Jericho area pending the inauguration of the council to be elected pursuant to the Declaration of Principles.

### Article 5. Legislative Powers of the Palestinian Authority

1. The Palestinian authority will have the power, within its jurisdiction to promulgate legislation, including basic laws, laws, regulations and other legislative acts.

2. Legislation promulgated by the Palestinian authority shall be consistent with the provisions of this agreement, (I: and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political persuasion, nationality or social origin).

3. Legislation which exceeds the jurisdiction of the Palestinian authority of which is inconsistent with the provisions of this agreement shall be null and void.

4. Legislation of the Palestinian Authority shall be communicated to a legislation sub-committee to be established by the joint civil affairs coordination and cooperation committee (hereinafter "the legislation sub-committee") for its review. During a period of 30 days from the communication of the legislation, Israel may request that the Legislation Sub-Committee decide whether such legislation exceeds the jurisdiction of the Palestinian authority or is otherwise inconsistent with the provisions of the agreement.

5. Upon the receipt of the Israel request, the legislation sub-committee shall decide, as an initial matter, on the entry into force of the legislation pending its decision on the merits of the matter.

6. If the Legislation Sub-Committee is unable to reach a decision with regard to the entry into force of the legislation within 15 days, this issue will be referred to a board of review, comprised of two judges (or retired judges), one from each side.

For this purpose, the two sides shall compile a list of six judges (or retired judges), three from each side, approved by both

sides. In order to allow fast-track proceedings before this board of review, the two most senior judges (or retired judges), one from each side, shall develop written informal rules of procedure of those proceedings.

7. Legislation referred to the board of review shall enter into force only if the board of review decides that it does not deal with a security issue which falls under Israel's responsibility, that the alleged violation does not seriously threaten other significant Israeli interests protected by this agreement and that the entry into force of the legislation could not cause irreparable damage or harm.

8. The Legislation Sub-Committee shall attempt to reach a decision on the merits of the matter within 30 days from the date of the Israeli request. If this sub-committee is unable to reach such a decision within this period of 30 days, the matter shall be referred to the joint Israeli-Palestinian liaison committee.

9. Where the legislation has not entered into force pursuant to paragraph Nos. 5 or 7 above, such situation shall be maintained pending the decision of the joint Israeli-Palestinian liaison committee on the merits of the matter, unless it has decided otherwise.

10. Laws and military orders in effect in the Gaza Strip or Jericho area prior to the signing of this agreement shall remain in force, unless amended or abrogated in accordance with this agreement.

### Article 6. Arrangement for Security and Public Order

1. In order to guarantee public order and internal security for the Palestinians of the Gaza Strip and the Jericho areas, the Palestinian authority shall establish a strong police force, as set out in Article ... (PDPF) below. Israel shall continue to carry the responsibility for defence against external threats, including the responsibility for protecting the Egyptian border and the Jordanian line, and for defence against external threats from the sea and from the air, as well as the responsibility for overall security of Israelis and Israeli settlement for the purpose of safeguarding their internal security and public order.

2. Agreed security arrangements and coordination mechanisms are specified in annex I.

3. A joint coordination and cooperation committee for mutual security purposes, as well as three joint coordination and cooperation offices for the Gaza district, the Khan Yunis district and the Jericho district respectively, are hereby established as provided for in annex I.

4. The security arrangements provided for in this agreement and in annex I may be reviewed at the request of either party and may be amended by mutual agreement of the parties. Specific review arrangements are included in annex I.

### Article 7. The Palestinian Directorate of Police Force

1. In order to guarantee public order and internal security for the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area, the Palestinian authority shall establish a strong police force — the Palestinian police force (hereinafter "the Palestinian police"). The duties, functions, structure, deployment and composition of the Palestinian police, together with provisions regarding its equipment and operation, are set out in annex I, article... Rules of conduct governing the activities of the Palestinian police are set out in annex I, article...

2. Except for the Palestinian police referred to in this article and the Israeli military forces referred in article — no other armed forces shall be established or operate in the Gaza Strip or the Jericho area.

3. Except for the arms, ammunition and equipment of the Palestinian police described in annex I, article — neither the Palestinian Authority, nor any organisation of individual in the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area, shall manufacture, sell, acquire, possess, import or otherwise introduce into the Gaza Strip or the Jericho Area, any firearms, ammunition, weapons explosives, gunpowder or any related equipment.

4. Notwithstanding paragraph 3. above:

(a) The Palestinian authority may grant licences permitting the use of explosives and gunpowder for civilian use and shall supervise such use. Such licensing and supervision shall be subject to the approval of the JSC. The JSC shall agree on standard conditions to be included in such licences, and on means of inspection and notification.

(b) Each side may grant licences permitting the possession and carrying of pistols for self defense purposes. Arrangements in this regard are set out in annex I, paragraph —

### Article 8. Passages

Arrangements for coordination between Israel and the Palestinian authority regarding the Gaza-Egypt and Jericho-Jordan passages, as well as any other agreed international crossings, are set out in annex

## France and Britain hope tunnel holds vision of the future

By Paul Taylor  
Reuter

**PARIS** — For Franco-British relations, the outlook might be described as tunnel at the end of the light.

The official inauguration of the Channel Tunnel on May 6, creating a land link between Britain and continental Europe for the first time since the last Ice Age, ought to be a landmark event opening a new era in relations.

Queen Elizabeth and President Francois Mitterrand will open the tunnel at ceremonies in Calais and Folkestone and travel through it in a train carrying the royal Rolls-Royce.

Because of technical delays, the massively over-budget rail link will not open on schedule for freight or passengers.

The operators have announced that passenger traffic will begin only after the summer holiday season.

The opening of the tunnel symbolises the false starts that have characterised a relationship sealed in 1904 as the *Entente Cordiale* but which is often neither cordial nor an entente.

Since World War II, Franco-British relations have hobbled from one new dawn to another without ever shaking off the rivalry, mutual suspicion and difference of purpose that made the two countries hereditary enemies for centuries.

In spite of the forthcoming celebration of the 50th anniversary of the D-Day landings, the turning point against Nazi Germany in World War II, it is sometimes hard to imagine that Britain and France were allies in two world wars and are partners in NATO, the U.N. Security

Council and the European Union.

The French still tend to see "the Anglo-Saxons," a term that refers to both Britain and the United States, as their main adversaries in finance, trade and European integration — and as a permanent threat to their language.

The British tend to see the French as trying to drag them into a centralised, over-regulated, spendthrift Europe and drive between them and the United States.

Officials on both sides acknowledge France still looks instinctively to Germany as its favoured partner, while Britain looks to Washington — and often Bonn — before Paris.

Twelve million visitors cross the channel each year without the tunnel, but old resentments lurk just below the surface.

The slightest fishing dispute is enough to set British ministers invoking the Hundred Years' War, a period of almost incessant battles between the two countries that began in the mid-14th century.

Britain's popular press gleefully seizes on any excuse for "frog bashing", an attitude encouraged at times in the 1980s by the Eurosceptic government of Margaret Thatcher.

Some Britons believe General Charles de Gaulle, who launched his call to resist the Nazi occupation of France from exile in London, betrayed his World War II allies by twice slamming the door to the European economic community in Britain's face — in 1963 and 1967.

Wartime British Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill

chill once joked of the Gaulist emblem of free France: "We all have our crosses to bear, mine is the cross of Lorraine."

The general later explained his move in keeping Britain out by saying it was "an island entirely surrounded by water."

Just before Britain finally joined in 1973, the queen said in a celebrated speech in France: "While it is true that we do not drive on the same side of the road, it is also true that we are going in the same direction."

Two decades later, many French people doubt that Thatcher's epic battles for budget rebates and against closer European integration left a bitter taste.

Foreign affairs commentator Jacques Julliard of the weekly *Le Nouvel Observateur* speaks for many Frenchmen when he argues that it was a mistake to let Britain into the European Union because the British are fundamentally anti-European.

Hopes rose in Paris when Thatcher was removed in 1990 that her successor, John Major, who took office vowing that Britain wanted to be at the heart of Europe, would usher in a period of closer cooperation.

In spite of their comradeship in arms in the Gulf War and in Bosnia, the French were soon disillusioned. Officials privately see Major as too weak or too much a prisoner of EU critics in his party to pursue European integration positively.

A fight over EU voting rules illustrated how far apart they remain.

Nevertheless, both governments seem intent on using this Franco-British spring to

show that their relationship, as Mark Twain once wrote of Wagner's music, is not as bad as it sounds.

A brochure called "The Entente Cordiale Today", jointly produced by the two foreign ministries to mark this month's 90th anniversary of the Entente Cordiale Treaty ending Franco-British colonial disputes, is resolutely optimistic.

"France and Britain have been friends, natural allies and healthy competitors — for over 150 years. We complement each other," British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd and his French counterpart Alain Juppe wrote in a joint preface.

"The bond between France and Britain is strong and lasting... the habit of shared analysis, consultation and joint action, already strong, is becoming instinctive," they said.

The brochure stressed the intensity of Franco-British trade, industrial cooperation, military and cultural links even if some joint ventures, such as the Concorde supersonic aircraft or the Anglo-French Suez expedition in 1956, ended in failure.

With understatement more typical of the English, the Secretary-General of the Foreign Ministry, Bertrand Dufourcq, told British Ambassador Sir Christopher Mallaby at an anniversary ceremony how highly Paris valued British support in Europe "when we receive it."

Mallaby responded by quoting the 19th century French science fiction writer Jules Verne, who said: "The channel prevents two peoples who were made to get along well together from shaking each other's hand. I shall dig a railway tunnel."

charities.

"Everything comes from individuals and friends or friends of friends. When we run out of money we look for more."

"All the staff here have been told they will not receive regular salaries. I pay them when I can afford to," he said.

Dr. Abdulai said he was giving food regularly to 2,000 of the 130,000 villagers displaced by ethnic fighting this year in the Tamale region.

He considers the army's relief efforts "very ineffective" and is unimpressed by the slow response of foreign aid agencies based in Tamale. "I saw the food and medical relief simply was not reaching many refugees."

Self-help accounts for the clinic's steady expansion since 1989. The wards are 60 circular thatched huts, identical to those in northern Ghana's villages.

"I have an agreement with local communities. Each one is responsible for building and maintaining a hut where patients from their community will stay. It's up to them to do the repairs," Dr. Abdulai said.

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He took a life-changing plunge in 1989, when he resigned as Tamale's district medical officer and started the clinic on scrubland at Guruga.

After a first medical degree in Ghana, a second at Liverpool in Britain and a spell working in Zambia, Dr. Abdulai was all set for a successful and lucrative career.

"I came back to Ghana and saw the rising cost of public health care. I decided it wasn't right and gave up my well-paid government job," he said.

The people of Tamale call him the "Madmen's Doctor". Every day he or a colleague get into a pick-up and distribute rations to the half-naked, dreadlocked men who roam the streets and markets of Tamale, a city in every West African

"It's terrible, terrible. When will they stop?" Asked Dr. David Abdulai, a folk hero in his home town of Tamale, northern Ghana.

"We offer absolutely free and unconditional medical services to the poor and destitute."

"We are a last resort, irrespective of sex, race,

don't. They calm down naturally, just knowing they will be fed."

The surgical team gulps mugs of water, slowly cooling off after the morning's toil in the operating theatre. The clinic is now on the electricity grid and the generator's batteries have packed up. A solar panel turns the theatre into a furnace.

"We had to amputate a woman's leg. She has cancer," Dr. Abdulai explained.

That day's good news was about the paralysed patient brought to the clinic after a government hospital refused him treatment. He could not afford the laboratory tests.

"That man now has some movement in all his limbs. It is very encouraging," said Dr. Abdulai.

He says the clinic receives no subsidy from government and no regular support from international

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By Rodney Pinder  
Reuter

**JOHANNESBURG** — After history's page has turned this week and South Africa becomes a democracy, its new black leader may reflect that nothing in his life of trial and struggle has prepared him for what lies ahead.

Apartheid has died but its bashed legacy remains.

President Nelson Mandela — he is projected the winner by all the polls — devoted most of his 75 years, including 27 years in prison, to this moment.

But analysts say he will find that the election was only one of the obstacles on the path to full black liberation.

Three hundred years of white domination and segregation and four decades of its ultimate form, apartheid, have created two nations: an impoverished, largely ignorant, violence-ridden black mass with an affluent, well-educated white layer on top.

The president's overriding task will be to heal hatreds nurtured by the white minority to divide and rule, and to elevate the hungry masses while not scaring off the privileged who created Africa's richest economy largely for themselves.

With a less than sympathetic white-dominated civil service and a questionably-loyal army and police, will face a myriad of problems.

Never far from his sights will be the winner-takes-all election of 1999 that will replace the multiparty interim government of national unity to be voted in this week.

Mandela's African National Congress says the nation is in a mess: 17 million people below the poverty line, five million — 30 per cent of adults — unable to get work, seven million homeless, nine million illiterate, four million without clean water.

With a population of 40 million, South Africa generates two-thirds of the gross domestic product of tiny Belgium which has a quarter of the people. The economy has been skewed to provide a California lifestyle for five million whites.

The ANC plans a U.S.\$1 billion, five-year reconstruction and development programme. The National Party, fighting to retain power after renouncing its apartheid past, says the ANC's housing, health and education plan will swallow double that money in its first year.

On top of that, the new leader must seek to address the land hunger of a people systematically stripped of their farms, the iniquitous migrant host system, desirous and bankrupt tribal homelands and their corrupt bureaucracies, women reduced to third class citizenship — and a domestic crime rate that makes the United States look sedate.

He must also stem political violence that has killed 15,000 people since Africa's last white president, F.W. de Klerk, lifted apartheid's lid from black politics four years ago.

Much of the violence stems from a death struggle in rural Natal not only between the ANC and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's Inkatha, but between modern democracy and the deeply traditional ways of omnipotent chiefs and witchdoctors.

It was by no means certain that Buthelezi's eleventh-hour decision to take part in



An ANC supporter carries the new South African flag through the streets of Johannesburg (AFP photo)

## Apartheid legacy will haunt S. Africa's black leaders

the election signalled peace.

He says he will boycott the government of National Unity, threatening further estrangement with the probative dominant party.

Against the deep-seated enmity of the two giants of black politics, the hostility of township youths alienated by apartheid and expecting the world next week as reward for their resistance, and a deep-rooted culture of protest in the labour movement.

Their most articulate champion is Mandela's estranged wife Winnie, who already accuses the ANC's leaders of slipping between silk sheets, seduced by big business.

Author Rian Malan wrote in *Fair Lady Magazine* that whites will feel at watching their nemesis the ANC "Cleaning up the mess we've left behind... trying to collect rents in Soweto, or forcing its juvenile petrol-bombers and stone-throwers to siddown, shaddup and listen to teacher."

Mandela, the towering giant of black South African politics, will assume the African mantle of Ghana's Kwame Nkrumah and Tanzania's Julius Nyerere, but he will hope to avoid the mistakes that turned their nations into basket cases.

"I see government that will be careful" to avoid the populist pitfalls of the rest of Africa, says Nedbank chief economist Edward Osborn. "The lessons have been learned."

A regional diplomat said Mandela starts his journey with more advantages than other African leaders — a large industrial and sophisticated banking and business structure — but also more fearsome problems, not least hot-headed black and white South Africans' propensity to reach for their guns.

Zimbabwe's white Transport Minister Denis Norman, who successfully bridged his country's transformation from white-ruled Rhodesia, predicted: "It will not be as good as many hope, but not so bad as they fear."

**Israelis dreams in Gulf unrealistic**

By Youssef Azmeh  
Reuter

**DUBAI** — Israeli dreams of conquering the lucrative markets of the Arab Gulf states are premature and largely unrealistic. Gulf-based businessmen and diplomats say.

They were commenting on the apparent euphoria of Israeli officials who visited a Gulf state for the first time when Oman hosted multilateral talks spawned by the 1991 Middle East peace conference in Madrid.

He said that American Muslim groups have repeatedly condemned acts of political violence, and called upon their counterparts in the Middle East to take similarly clear positions.

Political violence is "unacceptable," even if it is carried out under the banner of a just cause, Mr. Almoudi declared. "There are many martyrs among Palestinians... but this does not permit us, as Muslims, to shoot one single bullet without being blamed," he said.

He was also critical of the Islamic regime in Sudan, arguing that its style of government is in conflict with Muslim values.

Mr. Almoudi suggested that the problem of "conflict" in the Gulf is

genuine friendliness," he added.

Another Western diplomat said Israeli political leaders trying to win support for the peace process may be playing up the prospects of a mouth-watering market in the Arab Gulf states that import goods worth some \$45 billion.

The senior Omani official said the Israelis, headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin, were told normal relations, economic or political, were out of the question ahead of peace between Israel and its immediate neighbours.

"We told them (the Israelis) — we will follow your neighbours. We will never be ahead of them in establishing political or economic relations," he said.

"This

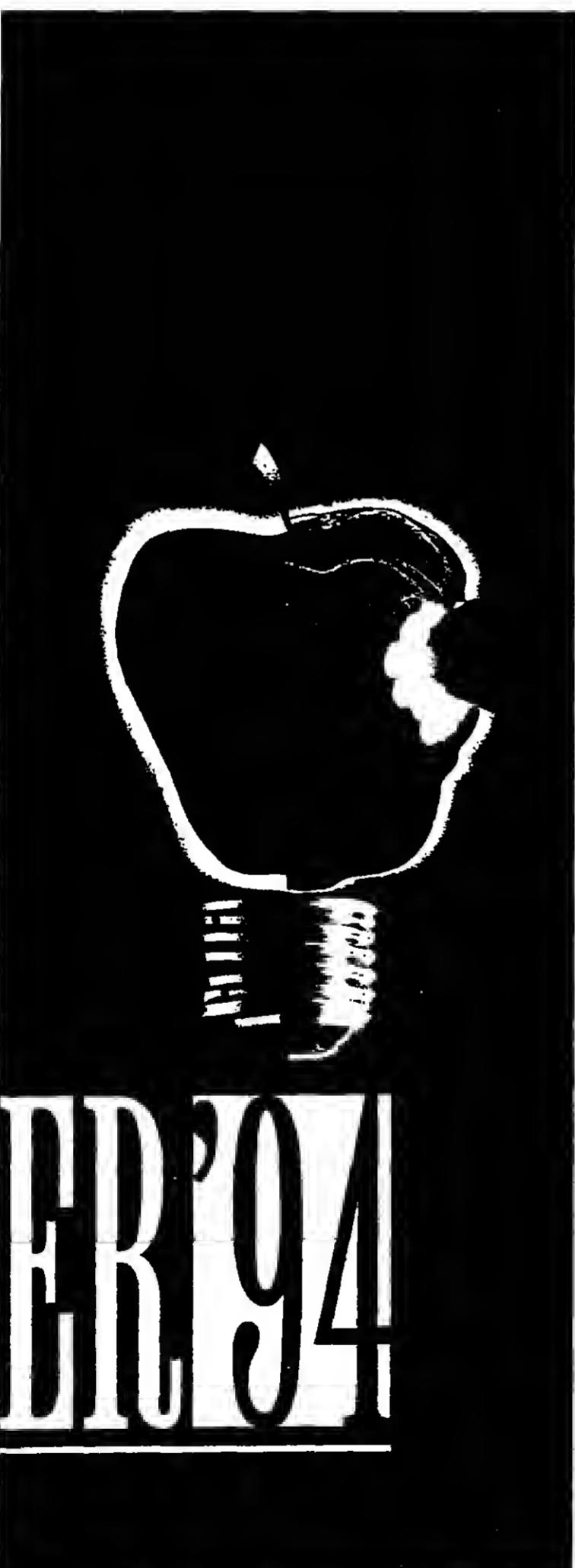
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Back in January 24, 1984, Apple introduced the Macintosh and changed the face of computing. And one decade later, Apple is preparing everyone for the next revolution, the Power Macintosh.

It is therefore our pleasure to welcome you to Power'94, Ideal Systems' most significant marketing event since the company's inception, marking the official introduction of the Power Macintosh in Jordan. This new generation of Macintosh Systems bound to revolutionise the world of personal computing, is based on the PowerPC microprocessors, the fruit of co-operation between Apple, IBM™ and Motorola™, and is being heralded as the potentially defacto standard for the entire industry to follow.

Power PC technology will create the foundation for a new generation of faster, more powerful Macintosh software. It will allow Apple to provide significant performance increase and new capabilities while preserving compatibility with existing Macintosh applications and peripherals.

At Power'94, you can witness the Power Macintosh execute previously time-consuming and complex tasks with the greatest of ease. Rendering and image retouching, complex walk-throughs in architecture, statistical analysis and computer animation can now be performed with far greater speeds, thus saving the end user valuable time and money.

Last but not least, we have arranged for a series of seminars tackling various important and stimulating topics that are guaranteed to enrich your knowledge.

We take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and to welcome you to Power'94, the dawn of a new era.

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5pm Fri, May 6

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### ARCHICAD

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The best Computer Aided Design application available now on the Power Macintosh.

### IDEASOFT BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

7pm Wed, May 4  
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## S. Korean troops on alert after North's unusual military moves

SEOUL (R) — President Kim Young-Sam-Monday ordered the nation's 650,000-strong armed forces to keep an around-the-clock vigil following unusual military moves by Communist North Korea in recent days.

"The Defence Ministry should be fully prepared to cope with any eventuality, with all the soldiers exercising a 24-hour watertight vigilance," Mr. Kim was quoted by an aide as telling a meeting of security-related cabinet ministers.

A Defence Ministry spokesman said the presidential statement was not meant to increase the level of alert but to stress that troops should always maintain their vigilance.

"We are not seeing the unusual North Korean movements of recent days as a sign that they will commit a serious provocation against the South," the spokesman said.

Mr. Kim's instruction came as the United Nations forces stationed in South Korea accused the north of violating a 41-year-old armistice agreement by deploying more soldiers and weapons than permitted at the tense inter-Korean border.

A U.N. Command (UNC) spokesman said North Korea, which has in recent days described the armistice as "a worthless piece of paper", had increased forces at the

Panmunjom frontier crossing to unacceptable levels.

"Early in the evening on April 29, the (North) Korean People's Army (KPA) for several hours had more men and weapons in the joint security area (JSA) at Panmunjom than permitted by the armistice pact," a UNC spokesman said.

Tension is always high in the Panmunjom JSA, a circle 800 metres in diameter, because each side is permitted to have up to 35 military police inside.

The North has boycotted MAC meetings since a South Korean general was appointed head of the five-person UNC delegation in March 1991, replacing an American.

"Mutual agreement is required to alter the armistice agreement and such an action would constitute a fundamental change to that agreement," the spokesman said.

"UNC officials are working to resolve this matter through continuing dialogue with KPA representatives and careful consultation with allied governments and other forces involved in the armistice agreement," he said.

Military commanders for

soldiers equipped with arms and helmets appeared at Panmunjom last Friday, breaking the armistice pact.

The number, movement and dress of North Korean and U.N. troops stationed at Panmunjom, the only crossing point on the inter-Korean border, is strictly laid down under the armistice agreement.

The UNC spokesman said in a separate statement North Korea had announced its intention to withdraw from the MAC, which supervises implementation of the Korean truce.

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"UNC officials are working to resolve this matter through continuing dialogue with KPA representatives and careful consultation with allied governments and other forces involved in the armistice agreement," he said.

Military commanders for

official said the North Korean move could be interpreted as an indication the hardline Stalinist state was trying to nullify the commission.

North Korea, which has defied the United Nations by refusing to allow full inspection of its nuclear facilities by International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) officials, last week proposed negotiations with the United States to replace the armistice with a peace agreement.

But a U.S. State Department spokeswoman said last Thursday the armistice remained "in full effect and all practical arrangements that would keep open the lines of communications between the U.N. Command and the North Korean military are still in place."

Meanwhile, the IAEA said Monday time was running short for its bid to monitor refueling at North Korea's Yongbyon nuclear plant, but it has yet to break a diplomatic deadlock over inspection terms.

North Korea wants to start refueling at the five megawatt reactor suspected by the West of being part of a covert nuclear weapons programme — in early May.

But Pyongyang has put unacceptable terms on its invitation to inspectors from the IAEA to observe the work, IAEA spokesman David Kyd said.

A Seoul Defence Ministry



KARACHI UNREST: Smoke rises from a gutted bus stopped in the middle of the street, as a result of in-city-wide disturbances. More than 21 vehicles were burned during ethnic unrest which already caused six people to die. Tension remained high in Karachi Monday as fighting continued between the police and supporters of the Mohajir Quami Movement (MQM) and the Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM) and the death toll rose to 13. Six more people were rushed to hospital with gunshot wounds, bringing the number of injured to more than 60 in

four days since police opened fire Friday on an MQM gathering, killing two supporters. One woman was shot dead overnight Sunday amid continuing violence in the central and eastern parts of the city. Three vehicles, including two ambulances, were set ablaze, fire brigade sources said. At least 36 vehicles, including two public transport buses, have been burned so far. Masked gunmen have also been roaming the streets firing in the air and creating panic, residents in the troubled areas said (AFP photo).

## Mortar fire kills 14, in Rwanda capital

RUSOMO, Rwanda (R) — Mortar fire killed at least 14 Rwandans and wounded 150 in a church compound where they had taken refuge from heavy fighting in the capital Kigali, aid workers said Monday.

At least two mortar bombs exploded late Sunday near the Sainte Famille Church, said Moccar Gueye of UNAMIR, the U.N. Assistance Mission in Rwanda. "We were not able to detect exactly who shelled the camp."

Kigali, where government forces are battling advancing rebels of the Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF), suffered "one of the heaviest days of shelling we have seen," said Patrick Gossler of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

"Mortars didn't hit the church itself. They hit the surroundings and people were hurt in a market area," Mr. Gossler said.

At least 14 were killed outright, he said. Some 60 of the wounded were transported to the ICRC's makeshift hospital, set up to cope with horrific

casualties in recent weeks, and others were taken to Kigali's central hospital.

"I don't know how many were left behind who didn't have a chance."

Hospital facilities are overstretched in a city where the United Nations estimates some 20,000 bodies are lying unburied.

The United Nations says about 2,000 mainly Tutsi civilians are clustered around Sainte Famille where they have sought refuge from marauding pro-government Hutu militias since chaos erupted in the wake of President Juvenal Habyarimana's death in a rocket attack on his plane on April 6.

"They are running from certain death," said Mr. Gueye.

UNAMIR peacekeepers protect about 14,000 civilians in buildings around the city, but the militias issued fresh threats last week to butcher these people, officials said.

UNAMIR troops visited the Sainte Famille area Sunday, but they are not there permanently. The ICRC said government authorities had posted police to guard the area.

On April 19 last month government forces fired mortars at the U.N.-guarded Amahoro Sports Stadium in the RPF-controlled part of Kigali where some 5,000 people are sheltered, killing some 60, U.N. officials said.

Aid officials are struggling to provide supplies for up to 250,000 refugees who fled from Rwanda into northwestern Tanzania as the RPF advanced in recent days.

The flood of refugees dried up over the weekend but the RPF denied allegations that it had formally closed the border.

U.N. special envoy to Rwanda Jacques-Roger Booh-Booh was due to visit Uganda's capital Kampala Monday to meet President Yoweri Museveni to discuss efforts to secure a ceasefire.

U.N. officials said Mr. Booh-Booh would also go to Arusha, the northern Tanzanian town where a peace accord was signed between the parties 10 months ago.

## Yeltsin: Russia's danger is next president

PARIS (Agencies) — The "real danger" for Russia lies in who its next president will be after the 1996 election, President Boris Yeltsin said in an interview Monday in the French paper *Le Figaro*.

"That is what could pose problems for Russia," he said, explaining that for the moment at least no likely candidate was in view. "Perhaps in two years a personality will emerge who would be recognised by the whole people," Mr. Yeltsin added.

He refused to reply to questions about his own intentions regarding the 1996 presidential race, asserting: "I do not discuss that subject."

Yeltsin was interviewed to mark the publication of the French edition of his book *The View From The Kremlin*, an account of last year's rebellion in parliament which came close to ousting him.

He dismissed the idea of Russian backing for Bosnian Serbs, saying Moscow wanted to stop the fighting. America had greater influence with the Muslim Slavs, Germany with the Croats and Russia with the Serbs, so the three powers should get the warring parties to the negotiating table to sign a peace agreement, Mr. Yeltsin said.

He told *Le Figaro* what the Russian market in consumer goods was picking up. He

would not claim it was the best-stocked in the world, but it was beginning to resemble markets in "civilised countries."

Mr. Yeltsin's arch-foe Alexander Rutskoi, the former vice president who played a prominent part in last October's uprising, meanwhile told the *Independent* Moscow television station NTV that he would set up a patriotic socialist movement in three weeks "to take power." Members would be strictly vetted and subject to "iron discipline," and there would be no place for dissenting views.

Mr. Rutskoi said the civil peace pact signed last week by political parties and others was a bid by Mr. Yeltsin to make "hostages" of his opponents. Mr. Rutskoi and the Communist and Agrarian parties plus some conservatives refused to sign.

"The goal of this movement is to come to power, because without power we can't realise the goals we've set," Mr. Rutskoi told *Itogi*, the independent NTV network's influential news show.

*Itogi* also aired a copy Sunday of what it called a "curious document" it obtained — a decree signed by Mr. Rutskoi and dated Oct. 3, the day of bloody street riots in Moscow, ordering that Mr. Yeltsin's top allies be detained and pre-

vented from leaving Russia.

Mr. Rutskoi called the decree a forgery and accused Mr. Yeltsin's camp of circulating it to ruin him.

Mr. Rutskoi declared himself president on September after Mr. Yeltsin, breaking months of political gridlock, disbanded the old hardline parliament. Armed supporters of Mr. Rutskoi and the old parliament's leaders voted, surrendering after Mr. Yeltsin turned tanks against the building on Oct. 4, scores of people were killed in the clashes.

The former vice president was arrested and charged with inciting riots, but was released in February under an amnesty granted by the new parliament.

Since then, Mr. Rutskoi has been an outspoken critic of the administration, and particularly of the political peace pact signed this week by Mr. Yeltsin and various parliamentary factions. Mr. Rutskoi told *Itogi* the truce was nothing but Mr. Yeltsin's "one man show."

Although Mr. Rutskoi is viewed as a potential candidate in 1996 presidential elections, Mr. Yeltsin has dismissed him as a spent force and accused him of instability.

Mr. Rutskoi is even vying with Mr. Yeltsin as an author, telling *Itogi* he will tell all in a new book, *Collapse Of The Empire*.

## Planned Tower of Babel to be world's tallest

SHANGHAI (R) — Shanghai's \$92-million television tower, tallest in Asia and third tallest on Earth, has been completed, the official Xinhua News Agency reported. The 460-metre (1,509-foot) Oriental Pearl tower comprises three huge "spheroids" thrust aloft by chunky pillars, each nine metres (30 feet) in diameter. The spheroids contain restaurants and other facilities accommodating more than 1,000 tourists, Xinhua said. The world's tallest self-supporting tower is Toronto's CN Tower at 553 metres (1,815 feet). But China plans a 700-metre (2,296 foot) TV spire in Shenzhen near Hong Kong, topping that.

## Yeltsin 'not hearing bells' any more

MOSCOW (R) — The bells of the Kremlin's Ivan the Great Bell Tower, which this Russian Easter rang for the first time since Soviet leader Vladimir Lenin banned them in 1918, were silenced again — by Russian President Boris Yeltsin. Moscow's Echo Radio said the test chiming ahead of the midnight Eastern service stopped abruptly after a man told the bell-ringers the noise was disturbing Mr. Yeltsin. Lenin banned the use of the tower's bells after moving the seat of the Bolshevik government to Moscow 76 years ago. Moscow municipality had been restoring the bells for the past two years.

## In Singapore, plump is pretty and prosperous

SINGAPORE (R) — While slim women appeal to younger Chinese Singapore men, plump partners are preferred by older men because corpulence signifies prosperity, a survey by a Singapore woman's magazine shows. The survey in the May issue of *Citta Bella* magazine showed Chinese Singapore men between 40 and 30 were put off by fat women. It showed those between 41 and 50 did not like either skinny or chubby women. But those above 50 tended to appreciate women on the plump side. "It gives a woman a look of prosperity," one respondent was quoted as saying.

## Most Japanese back Hata but want early election

TOKYO (AFP) — Most Japanese support the minority cabinet of Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata formed last week, but also want early elections, according to a survey published by the Sankei Shimbun Monday.

The survey, conducted by the newspaper and the Fuji Television Network Friday and Saturday, found 62.1 per cent support for Mr. Hata's cabinet, down from the 63.4 per cent enjoyed by Morihiro Hosokawa's cabinet formed in August last year.

But an even bigger majority, 69.9 per cent of the 2,000 eligible voters polled, called for an early general election before the lower house completes its full four-year term in mid-1997.

The survey also found that 61.5 per cent of voters supported last week's sudden decision by the Social Democratic Party (SDP) to leave the coalition, a move which forced Mr. Hata to form the first minority Japanese cabinet in 39 years.

Mr. Hata, who has previously held such portfolios as finance, foreign affairs and farming, wants to allay concerns of European leaders ahead of the group-of-seven

(G-7) industrialised countries' summit in Naples, Italy, in July, government sources said.

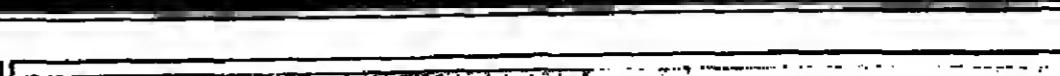
The week-long tour had been planned months ago for Mr. Hosokawa, who stepped down on April 8 amid controversy over his past financial deals.

European leaders will be looking at ways to reduce Japan's \$30 billion trade surplus with the European Union, but analysts said Mr. Hata's political weakness might not give him much room for manoeuvre at home.

Mr. Hata will try to reassure his European hosts that Japan wants to deal equally with the United States and the EU and give each equal access to Japan's market.

His new cabinet decided at the weekend to boost imports and work to stem the yen's rise against other major currencies. European officials are concerned that Japan will bow to U.S. pressure and give its trade deficit with the United States priority treatment.

The EU, which favours re-



## John Denver performs in Vietnam

HANOI (AP) — Country singer John Denver brought his message of music as a healing force to Vietnam Sunday, becoming the first American star to perform in the Communist country since the Vietnam War ended in 1975. The United States and Vietnam still have no diplomatic relations. Progress toward restoring relations was made in February when President Bill Clinton dropped a 19-year trade embargo of Vietnam. Denver and his four-man band played to a mixed audience of Vietnamese and expatriates in Hanoi's Cultural Palace. Vietnam is his last stop on a six-nation Asian tour. "It actually is a bit of a dream come true for me to sing here," Denver said after arriving in the Vietnamese capital Saturday. "It was just starting my career back when we were at war with the country." Denver said he was fortunate not to have been drafted into the military, due to two missing toes. He joined in anti-war protests in Washington and elsewhere, he said. "I thought, if I ever go to Vietnam, it will be to sing there," he said. Denver told his listeners in between songs that he cared deeply about helping to create a greater sense of global community and partnership.

## Man, 12-year-old daughter suspected in robbery spree

NEW YORK (AP) — A man trained his 12-year-old stepdaughter to help him rob elderly people in elevators, police said Sunday. Stanley Everett, 34, and his stepdaughter, whose name wasn't released, were arrested Saturday in connection with two April 11 robberies at Lower East Side housing projects. They're suspected of many more robberies, said housing police Lt. Thomas Shordone. Mr. Everett and his stepdaughter would get on an elevator with an elderly tenant, who "would be lulled into submission by the fact that he was with a little girl," Lt. Shordone said. "He would grab them by the neck and she would go into their pockets and take their property."

## Planned Tower of Babel to be world's tallest

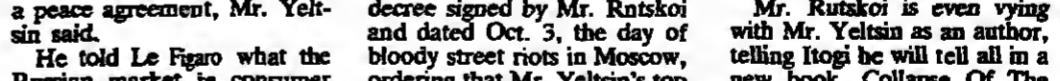
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# Sports

JORDAN TIMES, TUESDAY, MAY 3, 1994

## Knicks, Bulls go up 2-0 in playoffs

AP (AP) — John Denver, a singer of music as stirring as Vietnam, has performed the first American song in Vietnam since the Vietnam War ended in 1975. The diplomatic mission is toward restoring a relationship that is made in February, when President Bill Clinton's 19-year trade embargo in Vietnam, Denver and his band played to a crowd of Vietnamese in Hanoi. Vietnam is a six-nation Asian tour, a bit of a challenge for me to do, Denver said after a Vietnamese country. "I was just a career back when I was with the country, and he was forming a band, so I've been drafted into the military, due to my service. He joined us in Washington, D.C., to sing there, between songs that deeply about helping a greater sense of humanity and purpose."

"I didn't do anything, he initiated the contact," said Ewing. "If I am to get kicked out of a game, I'd like to do something to get kicked out."

Knicks coach Pat Riley said he thought the officials "were put on a notice" by the league to maintain control after Saturday's bench-clearing brawl in the Atlanta-Miami

game.

Herb Williams provided a much-needed boost in Ewing's absence with 11 points. Ewing also had 11 points.

In Chicago, Scottie Pippen continued to take the lead role for the defending NBA champions in Jordan's absence.

Pippen scored 22 points and Horace Grant had 18 points and 12 rebounds to carry the Bulls to a 105-96 victory over the Cleveland Cavaliers.

A 13-7 fourth quarter run helped the Bulls open a 93-83 lead with just under five minutes remaining and the Cavs got no closer than seven points the rest of the way.

In Houston, Hakeem Olajuwon had a huge game to put his Rockets up two games to none in their best-of-five series with the Portland Trail Blazers.

Olajuwon scored 46 points and blocked six shots to lead the Rockets to a 115-104 victory over Portland.

"I don't care how many it was as long as we win," said Pippen. "We're not trying to win a beauty contest here."

Cleveland's Gerald Wilkins led all scorers with 28 points, picking up 18 in the second quarter.

The Suns also opened a 2-0 lead in their best-of-five first-round series as Kevin Johnson scored 17 of his career playoff-high 36 points in the third quarter to power Phoenix to a 117-111 victory over the visiting Golden State Warriors.

## PSG's title fails to silence critics

PARIS (R) — Like AC Milan in Italy, newly-crowned French champions Paris St Germain are receiving more criticism for their boring style of play than credit for their achievements.

The Parisians clinched the title at the weekend in a way which did nothing to silence the don'ters — with a laboured 1-0 home win over Toulouse, a team struggling near the foot of the table.

PSG, under Portuguese coach Artur Jorge, have opted for the same safety-first style this season as AC Milan under Fabio Capello, with proven goal scorers left on the sidelines as a packed midfield concentrates on stopping the opposition playing.

Jorge's methods have been so effective that the Parisians are seven points clear with two games to play and still on course to break Marseille's French record of conceding only 21 goals in a season.

PSG are currently on 20. They also look likely to establish a less enviable record — as did Milan this season — of becoming the tide winning team with the lowest number of goals scored, PSG are on 48, five less than Monaco notched in winning the crown six years ago.

The Parisians have been so boring that their own fans, instead of celebrating the second title in the club's history, went on strike last month and chose to whistle their players' efforts during the first half against Toulouse.

Defender Alain Roche, who sarcastically applauded the fans as the team trudged off at the break, said: "Their attitude is so contradictory. They whistle us in the first half when we're playing for the title and then explode with joy at the end. "If they want a great team,

they should look at the way true supporters behave elsewhere, like in England or in Marca."

Roche said the players were tired at the end of a long season. "We would like to please everyone but it's not always possible," he said. "Last year, we played more spectaculal but we were less consistent. You have to know what you want."

"Milan haven't got an attractive style either but they're in the European Cup final."

Jorge, who has often left on the bench strikers George Weah, Xavier Gravelaine and Fran鏾is Calderaro, three men who have ended among the league's top scorers with their previous clubs, could be leaving to return to Portugal this summer.

PSG President Michel Desnoit said the team would be strengthened for the European Cup next season.

But they could lose two of their best known players.

## Chang wins ATT Challenge

DULUTH, Ga. (AP) — Top-seeded Michael Chang roared back after losing the first set Sunday to defeat no. 2 Todd Martin 6-7 (4-7), 7-6 (7-4), 6-0 and win the ATT Challenge tennis tournament.

It was Chang's fourth title this year, but his first championship on clay since winning the French Open in 1989, when he became the youngest Grand Slam champion at the age of 17 years, 3 months.

The victory won the world's seventh-ranked player \$42,000 from the total purse of \$300,000. Martin took home \$24,150.

For the first set and a half, Martin, ranked ninth on the ATP tour, served well despite a stiff wind, played aggressively to cut short any rallies and even outdistanced his 1.75 metres opponent from the baseline.

Capitalizing on Chang's weak service, Martin grabbed an early break to take a 3-0 lead, then expanded it to 4-1. Chang retaliated, sneaking a break in the seventh game to make it 3-4, then holding for a deuce.

Martin continued to dominate into the second set as Chang struggled with his serve. But he recovered his serve after 2-4 and bartled to the second-set tiebreaker.

Chang changed his tactics in the third set, and it paid off. In just 24 minutes, he put the match out of Martin's reach by nailing service returns and hitting passing shots at every opportunity.

"At the end of the second set I started to return his second serve from 5 metres behind the baseline. I wanted to give myself more time to get a good whack at the ball," Chang said.

"This was a major turning point for me. I was able to return much more effectively by doing this on his first and second serve."

Martin downplayed the factor of fatigue and pressure that may have come into play after the second set.

"I wasn't deflated after losing the second set. I think he was on a real high," Martin said. "I can't help that he was hitting those passing shots."

"It worries me a bit because it reveals the weakness on a technical level of my Williams-Renault. My car reacts a bit nervously on circuits like that," he said, pointing to the car's aerodynamics and problems with the new passive suspension.

Schumacher, who went on to win the re-started race, was behind Senna in second place at the time of the accident.

The German said: "His car looked nervous the lap before at that point. It was skittish."

## Three-time world champion killed in crash

## Motorsport mourns Ayrton Senna



Brazilian Formula One driver Ayrton Senna is attended by medics as they rush him off on a stretcher following his crash at the San Marino Grand Prix Sunday (AFP photo)

coward. This weekend has shown that safety is a major issue in Formula One."

Another former driver, Switzerland's Clay Regazzoni, whose career ended in a paralysing crash at Long Beach in 1980, blamed the speed-hungry car designers.

"No matter how safe you make a circuit, motor racing is still dangerous because the cars are going too fast," he said.

"It's the cars we have to change — what the engineers are building are planes. You can still have exciting races with slower cars."

## Imola track closed

IMOLA, Italy (R) — The Imola race circuit where Ayrton Senna lost his life was closed Monday following a court order.

The official spokesman for the Autodromo Enzo Dino Ferrari, Gianni Berti, said a local court order prevented visitors, including reporters, from going on to the circuit.

A Brazilian television crew and two British journalists, who were ejected from an open garage, after a heated discussion, as they attempted to visit the Tamburello corner where Senna's Williams car crashed fatally Sunday.

Earlier visitors to the circuit

had managed to climb the fence and one eye witness, British photog Glenn Campbell, said several bouquets of flowers and single red roses had been left at the point along the wall where Senna's car made its colossal impact.

A vivid blue imprint on the white-painted wall showed exactly where the 34-year-old triple world champion suffered his fatal injuries.

Further down the circuit the residential stain marks from the pool of blood left behind after emergency surgery showed clearly where Senna's body had lain before he was taken to hospital in Bologna.

## ATTENTION BANGLADESHIS

A consular team from the Bangladesh Embassy, Saudi Arabia will work from 5th to 8th May 1994 at the Bangladesh Consulate, Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle, for renewal/issue of passport and other consular jobs. All are requested to avail this opportunity.

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## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF  
AND TANNAH HIRSCH  
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### ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦A ♦K10963 ♦J8542 ♦73 ♦63

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ Pass 7

What do you bid now?

A.—Partner has shown a strong hand by reversing, so you are in a strong country. To leave yourself in maximum room for exploration, raise to three hearts. A raise of either of partner's suits after a reverse is a game force.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦K63 ♦A10753 ♦83 ♦Q72 ♦Q72

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ 1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠

What do you bid now?

A.—Give some partners five-card support for your major and they go wild. South's hand is riddled with losers and we feel that a raise to two hearts is adequate. That could be the ticket to defeat a five-card major since you should not get out to any contract below five diamonds.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦A44 ♦94 ♦73 ♦AKQ73

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ 1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠

What do you bid now?

A.—Your trump holding is not so robust that you should want to convert to penalties, especially at this vulnerability. We would opt to try for a vulnerable game and three no trump seems the obvious choice.

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦A44 ♦94 ♦73 ♦AKQ73

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ 1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠

What do you bid now?

A.—Your trump holding is not so robust that you should want to convert to penalties, especially at this vulnerability. We would opt to try for a vulnerable game and three no trump seems the obvious choice.

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦A44 ♦94 ♦73 ♦AKQ73

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ 1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠

What do you bid now?

A.—Your trump holding is not so robust that you should want to convert to penalties, especially at this vulnerability. We would opt to try for a vulnerable game and three no trump seems the obvious choice.

Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦A44 ♦94 ♦73 ♦AKQ73

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ 1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠

What do you bid now?

A.—Your trump holding is not so robust that you should want to convert to penalties, especially at this vulnerability. We would opt to try for a vulnerable game and three no trump seems the obvious choice.

Q.7—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦A44 ♦94 ♦73 ♦AKQ73

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ 1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠

What do you bid now?

A.—Your trump holding is not so robust that you should want to convert to penalties, especially at this vulnerability. We would opt to try for a vulnerable game and three no trump seems the obvious choice.

Q.8—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦A44 ♦94 ♦73 ♦AKQ73

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ 1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠

What do you bid now?

A.—Your trump holding is not so robust that you should want to convert to penalties, especially at this vulnerability. We would opt to try for a vulnerable game and three no trump seems the obvious choice.

Q.9—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦A44 ♦94 ♦73 ♦AKQ73

The bidding has proceeded:

## PLO accuses World Bank of reneging on pledge

TUNIS (Agencies) — A senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official accused the World Bank Monday of failing to provide funds it had promised the PLO to help launch Palestinian self-rule.

PLO Executive Committee member Mohammad Zuhdi said the PLO was ready to transfer 3,000 officials to the occupied Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho to implement Palestinian self-rule.

But the World Bank for not putting up the funds it had promised for building an infrastructure in Gaza and Jericho, and said the PLO's financial crisis had hampered preparations for autonomy.

"If we have to we will stay in tents," he said, adding the most important thing was "to respond to our people's hopes for independence."

Thousands of PLO officials are anxiously awaiting the final signature on a deal launching Palestinian self-rule, and the chance to start administering Gaza and Jericho.

But senior officials accused PLO leaders of keeping them in the dark about the timetable for the return of the 3,000 currently based in the PLO headquarters in Tunis.

"We are awaiting the hour of our return impatiently, but for the moment we have not been told of any decision, or given any instructions to sort out our affairs," said one official.

Mr. Nashashibi said timetables and detailed plans would be announced "when the time is right to avoid any disorder or confusion."

But another official said the PLO was being cautious to avoid any repetition of the

disappointment felt after the Israeli withdrawal failed to start on Dec. 13.

"Until the accord with Israel is a hard fact, PLO leaders don't want to risk another shock like Dec. 13," he said.

Then several families had

already been given the go-ahead to leave Tunis and were left stranded for the winter, having given up their homes and sold their furniture.

Mr. Nashashibi, who is vice president of the Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction (Pecdcr), said the Palestinians had created adequate structures and were sufficiently competent to manage self-rule.

There has been a flurry of activity in recent weeks at the offices of Fatah, the main PLO faction.

All PLO staff have filled out forms giving their names and status as well as details of their political affiliations, professional qualifications and where they would prefer to be sent back to.

Since March 17 Fatah leaders have been analysing the questionnaire to designate staff and administrators to the autonomous areas, said Fatah official Abbas Zaki.

### Stock exchange planned

The Palestinians will be allowed to set up their own stock exchange as part of autonomous rule in the Gaza Strip and Jericho, an Israeli official said Monday.

"The international community will give more than \$2 billion for autonomy and the Palestinians have a pool of cheap labour as well as capital among those living abroad. That should enable strong economic growth," he said.

"But everything will depend on the political conditions. Without a minimum of calm and political stability investments will not be forthcoming."

But Mr. Ben Ozer cautioned that it would take time to launch an exchange. "The Palestinians will need time to create the right conditions for a real economic take-off."

## Egyptians celebrate spring festival

CAIRO (R) — Millions of Egyptians went to the countryside or to the banks of the Nile on Monday to celebrate Shamm Al Nassim, an ancient and mysterious spring festival observed by Muslims and Christians alike.

Hundreds of thousands flocked to Cairo zoo or took their picnic baskets to the public gardens around the Qasr Al Khatrana, a series of irrigation canals north of Cairo.

Shamm Al Nassim, Arabic for "smelling the breeze," shares some of the pagan symbolism of the European Easter, especially the custom of painting eggs for children.

People also eat onions, lettuce green freshly picked chick-peas and a heavily salted fish called fiseekh.

Egyptians say the festival has its origins in Pharaonic times but the date is tied to the calendar of the Coptic Orthodox Church. It is the day after Easter Sunday.

The authorities announced special traffic arrangements for the mass exodus from Cairo and said they were deploying more police to prevent criminals taking advantage of the crowds.

They said hospitals were on alert for cases of fiseekh poisoning — a regular hazard of the festival.

At least eight people died and scores were critically ill after eating fiseekh in 1991.

Government inspectors have been touring the markets for days, confiscating dozens of tonnes of fiseekh which they decided not fit-for human consumption.

Government newspapers took the occasion of Easter and Shamm Al Nassim to sing the virtues of "national unity" — the political codeword for harmony between the Muslims and the Copts, who make up about 10 per cent of the population.

"Egypt's Muslims and Christians are of one stock, part of the same social fabric, all are brothers in their love of Egypt," the minister of religious affairs, Mohammad Ali Mahgoub, said on Sunday.

One version of the festival's origin says it takes the name shamm from the name of a season in the language of ancient Egypt. The "breeze" part was added after Arabs conquered the country in the seventh century.

## ECC reviews unemployment

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali on Monday chaired a meeting for the Economic Consultative Council (ECC), which discussed the problem of unemployment and means of solving it as provided for in the 1993-97 five-year development plan. Council member Awni Al Masri presented a paper at the meeting on the educational policies in Jordan. Dr. Majali noted that the government had presented to the Lower House of Parliament draft laws on higher education and the Applied Sciences University. The council also discussed the issue of foreign workforce in Jordan. Labour Minister Khaled Ghazal said the government had set up a ministerial committee to follow up the issue, pointing that 45,000 foreign workers have valid work permits, while the rest work in the Kingdom illegally.

The economic accord will be incorporated in the overall agreement which Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat are set to sign in Cairo on Wednesday.

Under the economic deal, the Palestinians will have "the authorities, powers and responsibilities regarding the regulation and supervision of capital activities... including the licensing of capital market institutions, finance companies and investment funds."

Oved Ben Ozer, chairman of the union of Tel Aviv stock exchange brokers, said there was no reason why Israelis should not invest in Palestinian companies.

"The international community will give more than \$2 billion for autonomy and the Palestinians have a pool of cheap labour as well as capital among those living abroad. That should enable strong economic growth," he said.

"But everything will depend on the political conditions. Without a minimum of calm and political stability investments will not be forthcoming."

But Mr. Ben Ozer cautioned that it would take time to launch an exchange. "The Palestinians will need time to create the right conditions for a real economic take-off."

Mr. Renter said he and Mr. Arafat agreed to develop economic cooperation and cross-border infrastructure going beyond the Palestinian territories to involve Israel, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan.

The Daimler-Benz boss said: "We do not simply have a passive interest in the peaceful development of the Middle East countries, we want to be a part of this process."

"We will do everything possible to help improve the living and working conditions of the people in the region."

Mr. Arafat arrived in Stuttgart on Monday after he and other top officials of his Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), meeting in Tunis late Sunday, accepted an accord with Israel for Palestinian autonomy in the Gaza Strip and Jericho.

Mr. Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin are scheduled to sign the accord in Cairo Wednesday, although the PLO leader indicated Monday that some points were still outstanding.

He said he hoped to hammer these out in Cairo Tuesday with Rabin, observing that it "takes two to tango" but that "where there's a will there's a way."

The PLO leader stressed that Palestinian infrastructure had been totally destroyed in the struggle with Israel and it was necessary to "start from zero." Children, who constituted the future of Palestine, were a priority, he said.

Mr. Arafat also stressed the cultural and social sectors.

Of his visit to Daimler-Benz, he said: "This type of active involvement by foreign companies is vital to our future success."

The PLO leader also called for regional cooperation at the Mediterranean level, and stressed that the lands concerned were bony for the Christian, Jewish and Muslim religions.

Mr. Renter said that at Daimler-Benz was going to launch a programme for Palestinian children in conjunction with the U.N.

The Daimler-Benz boss also presented his guest with an integrated transport plan for the present and future Palestine, produced by a group consulting company.

Mr. Arafat was given a tour of the company's headquarters where he viewed products from Mercedes-Benz vehicles to helicopters and rail equipment.

"It only took me 15 minutes to get through this time," said Wael Nofal, 34. "I did not need the entry permit to come to Jordan."

Mr. Nofal, a citrus fruit trader from the West Bank town of Kalkilia, told the Jordan Times as he was leaving the terminal to find a ride to Amman that he needed an entry permit the first three times he crossed into Jordan this year, and that it took him at least one hour to pass through the passport control.

"Just waiting for the permit sometimes delayed my work for weeks," said Mr. Nofal.

## Moves under way to 'institutionalise' Jordan's peace talks

By Nermene Murad  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — With a cabinet change or a major reshuffle in the cards after Parliament's current extraordinary session, measures are being considered to "institutionalise" Jordan's negotiations process to ensure continuity in the negotiations after an expected change of hands, official sources said Monday.

A well-informed source told the Jordan Times that there had been complaints that "the negotiations process has become dependent on a few people and that the lack of coordination between them affected the overall Jordanian position in the negotiations."

"At time statements from the different negotiators appeared contradictory because of the personalised nature of how the details of the negotiations were coordinated," one source said.

Until this move the "negotiations file" from the Prime Ministry to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a senior source said.

The task of the new office at the Foreign Ministry, which will be guided by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the head of the committee overseeing the work of the Jordanian negotiating delegation, "is to improve the coordination level among the different portfolios."

Well-informed sources said that the new office has been

supplied with facilities and resources to fund its research operations.

One senior official who confirmed the move said it was only "routine," but other sources maintain that there were "complaints" over gaps in coordination work among the different negotiating teams to the bilateral and multilateral talks.

A well-informed source told the Jordan Times that there had been complaints that "the negotiations process has become dependent on a few people and that the lack of coordination between them affected the overall Jordanian position in the negotiations."

"At time statements from the different negotiators appeared contradictory because of the personalised nature of how the details of the negotiations were coordinated," one source said.

Until this move the "negotiations file," as it is referred to by the sources, has been largely supervised by Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali and Minister of State for Prime Minister Affairs Jawad Al Anani.

But "there was a clear need to give a structure to the whole negotiations procedure under one independent central office so that it would not be hampered or affected by an pending change in government or portfolios."

## People flee Bangladesh coast as cyclone nears

CHITTAGONG, Bangladesh (Agencies) — Hundreds of thousands of people fled coastal Bangladesh on Monday as a cyclone with winds up to 210 Kilometres per hour threatened the same area where a cyclone killed 131,000 people in 1991.

As high winds and powerful waves lashed the shore, relief boats evacuated some of the seven million people who live on islands and along the 400-kilometre coast of the Bay of Bengal.

They were being taken to 900 brick storm shelters that have been built since 1991. But the shelters can only house one million people, so many other residents fled inland from their mud-and-thatch houses on the coast.

Rescue workers rushed through the lowlands using loudspeakers to urge people to move inland to the shelters or school buildings.

Waves were predicted to

reach three metres and flood low-lying areas with a tidal surge.

Bangladesh, a nation of 120 million people precariously built on river deltas, suffers from ruthless cycles of tropical storms, flooding and drought nearly every year.

More than 350,000 people reached shelters in Cox's Bazar district, according to its administrator, Enamul Kabir. Rescue workers hoped to move another 300,000 there by sunset, he said.

"The killer is coming again... stop it, or else we shall all die," said Mohammad Karim, 68, a fisherman who lost nine family members, including his wife, during the 1991 cyclone.

Mr. Karim was jammed into a two-storey shelter with 1,500 other evacuees in Cox's Bazar, a seafloor town. "The cyclone took nearly everything from me before. Now it is coming again to take me," he said, crying and beating his chest.

## Palestinians jubilant over eased Jordanian regulations

By Sana Atiyeh  
Special to the Jordan Times

SOUTH SHUONEH — Jaled Seid, 28, was waiting for this day when he could freely come into Jordan to visit his brother without the usual bureaucratic red tape of having to acquire an entry permit from the Jordanian authorities.

Mr. Seid, from the West Bank town of Jericho, came into Jordan for the first time in his life on Sunday, the day the Kingdom implemented a decision to ease restrictions on Palestinians from the occupied territories crossing into the country over the King Hussein bridge.

As on Sunday, Palestinians from the occupied territories, particularly men aged between 26 and 36, no longer need entry permits and are now allowed unlimited residence in the Kingdom.

"When I heard about the new regulations, I decided to try and come to see my brother," said Mr. Seid, as he waited at the King Hussein Bridge arrival terminal for passport clearance.

"It only took me 15 minutes to get through this time," said Wael Nofal, 34. "I did not need the entry permit to come to Jordan."

Mr. Nofal, a citrus fruit trader from the West Bank town of Kalkilia, told the Jordan Times as he was leaving the terminal to find a ride to Amman that he needed an entry permit the first three times he crossed into Jordan this year, and that it took him at least one hour to pass through the passport control.

"Just waiting for the permit sometimes delayed my work for weeks," said Mr. Nofal.

Nofal. "The easing of these regulations will make life and business much easier from now on."

Last week, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan issued instructions to ease restrictions on Palestinians coming to Jordan from the occupied territories (see page 3).

At the bridge terminal, Mr. Nofal said he did not fill the usual forms which previously required Palestinian visitors to answer a host of questions on the purpose of their visit and their residency status. "The policeman only asked me a few questions, and that was it," he explained.

Bridge officials said there were no orders to issue new arrival forms.

Mr. Nofal has said that Jordan was ready to keep its bridges open 18 hours a day.

"We are ready to open 24 hours a day," said a bridge officer on condition of anonymity. "But that depends on whether the Israeli side is prepared to keep its side of the bridge open."

Israel closes the bridges to Palestinians returning home at 1:30 p.m., and to those coming into Jordan later in the afternoon. On Saturdays, the Israeli authorities close the bridges completely and close at 9:30 a.m. on Fridays.

However, the bridges open longer hours during the summer when many Palestinians travel between the East and West Bank.

"We are very pleased with the new measures," said Mansour Shawa, a prominent Gaza personality and president of the Benevolent Society for the Gaza Strip.

"We have been urging Jordan for some time to adopt such measures which could

In line with the new regulations, the follow-up and in-

## Ghali upholds freedom of press worldwide

### COLUMN

Frenchman wins architecture award

LOS ANGELES (R) — French architect Christian De Portzamparc, best known for designing the City of Music Academy in a park in suburban Paris, was named winner Monday of the prestigious Pritzker Architecture Prize. Mr. De Portzamparc, 49, is the first Frenchman to win the award since it was set up in 1979 by the Pritzker family's Hyatt Foundation.

World Press Freedom Day concerns everyone. It concerns those who live in societies which benefit from a free press, and it concerns those in societies where freedom of the press is absent or incomplete. To that extent that the press is free, it serves both as the conscience of a nation and as a practical means of achieving good government. A free press exposes corruption. It provides the people with independent and competing opinions. It provides governments with a rich array of policy recommendations.

In the context of such vast significance, the press bears as well a tremendous responsibility. As a reflection of opinion, as a shaper of policies, as a crusader for justice, a free press must recognise the power it wields and rise to the level of responsibility which a free society deserves.

In too many parts of the world, power lies not in the hands of the friends of freedom but with its enemies. The freedom of the press comes only with long, hard and brave support — and when it is achieved it must be defended on a daily basis. With the spread of democracy in recent years, press freedom has also spread to areas of the globe where it had been suppressed for years. In such locations, press freedom remains a fragile achievement. Determination and vigilance are needed to enable a free press to take root and come to full flower in its social and political role.

World Press Freedom Day is more than a day to celebrate the achievement of a free press. It is a call to convey the benefits of freedom of the press across all societies. This day is thus a day to call for freedom. It is through a free press that the cry of the oppressed can be heard around the globe.